



## **Transit Strategic Plan Financial Advisory Committee**

February 19, 2009

5:00 – 7:00

Poudre Fire Authority Station 14  
2109 Westchase Drive, Fort Collins

### **Committee Members:**

*Present:* Gary Thomas, Dan Gould, Donna Chapel, Kitty Wild, Mary Atchison, Dan Hill, and Doug Johnson

*Absent:* Robert Heath

*Others Present:*

Facilitator: Tess Heffernan

Staff: Kurt Ravenschlag (City of Fort Collins), Nicole Hahn (City of Fort Collins), Marcy Abreo (City of Loveland)

### **Proceedings:**

*Meeting called to order* at 5:00 p.m. by facilitator, Tess Heffernan.

1. *Agenda review and group comments:*
  - a. Final recommendation will be presented to the Fort Collins City Council on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The package needs to be finished by April 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be work sessions with City Councils of both Fort Collins and Loveland.
2. *Staff follow up on Feb. 10 council work session*
  - a. Overall positive feedback on the plan, council did suggest we look at improving East/West connections in Phase I and they also would like to see regional routes moved to the final phase.
  - b. Members of the group suggested packaging the regional routes separate from the phases, and adding them in an a la carte fashion
  - c. The group discussed recommending the funding of phase II because of the extensive costs of the third phase.
  - d. Staff and the group agreed that this would be a more realistic recommendation.
  - e. The group indicated that they wanted regional connections to be more heavily included in phase II because they see this as a selling point to the community.
3. *Utility fee information*
  - a. Staff provided articles on municipalities that are implementing a Transportation Utility Fee (TUF). In most of the examples provided by staff the fee traditionally funded street maintenance as well as other transportation services. In the examples provided the fee was based on a

- trip per dwelling calculation. Typically residential properties paid a flat fee (assuming they would generate the same number of trips) and commercial properties paid a fee based on their projected trip generation.
- b. Staff consulted with the City of Fort Collins legal team and determined that this type of fee is legal.
  - c. The group discussed the pros and cons to this type of fee and one con that was primarily discussed was that this funding mechanism would tie each transit agency to the municipality. The group discussed the possibility of each transit agency being tied to its city and then through intergovernmental agreements creating an RTA to fund the regional service. Another con that the group discussed is that this type of fee is not sustainable because it can be repealed or reallocated when the council changes.
4. *Narrow down remaining funding mechanisms*
- a. The group worked to narrow down the remaining funding mechanisms
    - o *Dedicated Sales Tax*
    - o *New Negotiated Agreements*
    - o *Utility Fee with donation*
    - o *Special Improvement District*
    - o *Redirect Sales Tax*
    - o *RTA*
    - o *Statutory District*
  - b. Phase I potential funding mechanisms: new negotiated agreements, special improvement district (Mason Corridor), and a redirection of sales tax revenue
  - c. Phase II potential funding mechanisms will be discussed at the next meeting.
5. *Next Steps:*
- a. The group will focus on the top funding mechanisms and BBC research will present their modeling results for the top funding mechanisms.
  - b. The group will also discuss adding additional meetings to come to a final recommendation.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

1. Staff will provide more information on what was assumed for regional fares in the modeling.
2. Staff will provide more detailed information on the remaining funding mechanisms.

**Next Meeting :**

March 12, 2009

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Poudre Fire Authority Station 14

2109 Westchase Drive, Fort Collins